



Communicator

June 2012

Field Day Issue

Details Page 4

Why ICS

Page 5

Features

Field Day

Contest, Exercise or Social Event...
Something For Everyone

Radio-Active

Kapila VE7KGK

Tech Talk

Size Does Matter

Plus

Meeting Minutes

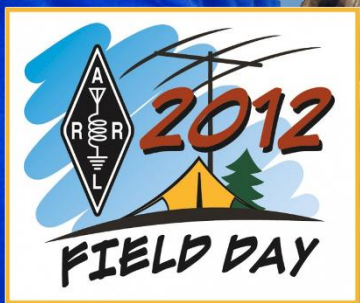
President's Report

June Calendar

News You Can Lose

SEPARS Report

QRM



ve7sar.net



The Monthly Newsletter of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club



The Communicator



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AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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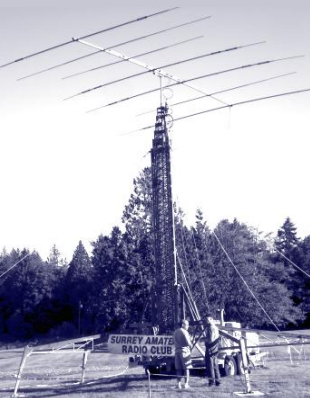
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VIA THE WEB
www.ve7sar.net

The SARC Communicator is published monthly for members of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club.

SARC maintains a website at www.ve7sar.net that includes club history, meetings, news and other information.



May Meeting Minutes Susan Eshelman VE7IIE—SARC Secretary

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by President John Brodie VA7XB.

INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

John VA7XB welcomed guests and new members, and an attendance list was circulated.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Scott Hawrelak VE7HA provided a brief financial report. It was briefly mentioned that a motion would be presented later in the meeting for an equipment purchase.

SEASIDE BUS TRIP

Susan Eshelman VE7IIE reported that the Seaside Oregon Sea-Pac trip, scheduled for June 1st-2nd, was being cancelled due to a lack of interest. Following the 'early bird' registration period, we were far short of the minimum seat registrations needed to make the trip viable. Refunds will be processed by

Susan and the bus contract will be cancelled.

SEPAR

Kelvin Hall VA7KPH gave a brief update on Separ activities, reporting on an exercise conducted with the Emergency Social Services group in Cloverdale. The scenario enacted was one in which no cell or landline phones were available, and all communications were processed by ham messaging. Another demo was also conducted recently in Guilford.

FOXHUNT

Anton James VE7SSD reported that all is a 'go' for the upcoming Foxhunt on May 12th. There are currently 23 participants registered for the Foxhunt, and 24 for the social/BBQ. Anton noted that one BBQ pit is still needed, and John VA7XB recommended the club buy one, since it can be used for Field Day and other activities.

CLUB EXECUTIVE 2011-2012

PRESIDENT
John Brodie VA7XB

VICE PRESIDENT
Bill Gipps VE7XS

SECRETARY
Susan Eshelman VE7IIE

TREASURER
Scott Hawrelak VE7HA

DIRECTORS
Kelvin Hall VA7KPH
(SEPARS)

John Schouten VE7TI
(Communicator Editor
& Net Manager)

George Merchant
VE7QH (Repeaters)

Bill Little VA7ZBL
(Membership)

Brett Garrett VE7GM

IN THIS ISSUE

click on the links below

Field Day
Contest, Exercise or
Social Event?

SARC Fox Hunt
2012 Results Are In

Tech Talk
Size Does Matter

Radio-Active
Kapila Jayaweera VE7KGK

Plus
Meeting Minutes
SEPARS Report
News You Can Lose
QRM
June Calendar
President's Report

	SEPARS Net	SARC Net
1 st Tuesday	Drew VA7DRW Jay VE7OFH Standby	Drew VA7DRW
2 nd Tuesday	Dixie VA7DIX Alan VA7BIT Standby	Jinty VA7JMR
3 rd Tuesday	Rob VE7CZV	John VA7XB
4 th Tuesday	Bill VE7XS Dixie VA7DIX Standby	Anton VE7SSD
5 th Tuesday	Jinty VA7JMR	Bill VE7XS
Want a turn at Net Control? Contact the Net Manager ve7ti @ separs.net		

SARC hosts an Amateur Radio net each Tuesday evening at 8 PM. Please tune in to the VE7RSC repeater at 147.360 MHz (+600 KHz) Tone=110.9, (optional Tone Squelch 110.9) also accessible on IRLP node 1980 and Echo-link node 496228. On UHF we operate a repeater on 443.775MHz (+5Mhz) Tone=110.9 Coming soon, a repeater at 224.000MHz (-1.6MHz).

REPEATER

John VA7XB reported that the Repeater installation will begin on Monday, and the contractor has picked-up our antennas in preparation. Kelvin VA7KPH noted that the target date for completion of the install is the end of May. As soon as possible after the new system is up and tested, the old system will be disassembled. Service will be provided for three bands, with BC Warn being added as a separate install phase.

While SARC has 220 antennas, we don't yet have a radio for that purpose. John VA7XB will look into a new grant application for a 220 radio/repeater system.

OPERATOR TRAINING & CONTESTING GROUP

Fred Orsetti VE7IO gave a report on the most recent Operator Training session, in which he and Brett Garrett VE7GM participated. The next upcoming event is the June 9th VHF/UHF QSOP, then an all-Asian CW contest.

Fred described the AARL event held last November, and the fact that 'Clean Sweep' mugs had been secured. These are earned by working all 80 ARRL/RAC sections by CW or Phone during the November Sweepstakes. These were handed out to the contest operators.



ELMERS GROUP

John VA7XB reported that the new mentoring effort is underway, and several SARC members are available to help anyone needing assistance with radios, antennas, etc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held on June 13, 2012 at Surrey Firehall #9, 14901 64th Avenue. Scott VE7HA, club Treasurer, will present the Annual Financial Report, and there will be an election of members. Following that will be a planning session for Field Day.

FIELD DAY PLANNING

The Langley club, who was supposed to take the lead in planning for this year's Field Day, has opted out, due to the low number of members who will be available to assist this year. At LARA's request, SARC agreed to take the lead. The Grandview Heights site has now been verbally confirmed. Al Munnik VE7RMP has secured donation of the porta-potties and the cherry-picker for use again this year.

The Band Pass filters have now been purchased for the club, and will be used for Field Day. John VA7XB led a discussion on the need for a Triplexer, which would cost about \$300. Jim VE7FO described the functionality of a Triplexer, and how it could assist in the Field Day configuration. Anton VE7SSD questioned whether this equipment would have use only once yearly, for Field Day, and John VA7XB noted that it would also be used by the Operator Training group during the year. A member pointed out that it will also have value in an emergency comm situation.

John VA7XB called for a motion on the purchase of a Triplexer, at a cost of approximately \$300 plus HST and shipping. Kelvin VA7KPH made a motion that a \$400 expenditure be approved for the purchase. The motion was seconded by Pat Speer VA7XE, and was carried unanimously.

A Field Day preview meeting will be held on Sunday, June 10th at 2:00 p.m., providing an orientation on Field Day activities. Location to be determined.

KIT-BUILDING DEMONSTRATIONS

As part of the Kit-building Project, both Hiu Yee VE7YXG and Gary Skett VE7AS demonstrated the kits they've recently built, for which SARC awarded a \$50 reimbursement to each (*see page 13*).

FEATURE PRESENTATION

A technical presentation was given by Bill Gipps VE7XS and Gary Skett VE7AS, who spoke on the topic of Flex Radio and the general benefits of Software Defined Radio.

With no New Business, following the 50/50 draw, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

DOWN THE LOG...

SARC Monthly Meetings

2nd Wednesday (Sept-Jun)
1900 hrs local at the Emergency Management BC PREOC,
14275 96th Avenue, Surrey, BC

The June Meeting is the **AGM** held at the following location:

Central Fire Training Facility, located behind and 100m to the east of Surrey Fire Hall No. 9 at 14901 64th Avenue

Weekly Club Breakfast

Friday at 0830 local
ABC Country Restaurant at
600 - 7380 King George Blvd.
Surrey

SARC Net

Tuesday at 2000 hrs local
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

SEPARS Net

Tuesday at 19:30 hrs local
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

Announcements & News

SEPARS Monthly Workshop
Third Thursday, 1900-2130 local
Rm. 214, 13569 - 76th Avenue,
Surrey.

SEPARS Training

Fourth Saturday, 0830 local,
Firehall #1, 88 & 132nd Street,
Surrey

On the Web ve7sar.net

Between newsletters, watch your e-mail for announcements of events, monthly meetings and training opportunities. These announcements may also be found on our web page.

Twitter
@ve7sar

Photos
Web Albums

SARC Field Day

Contest, Exercise or Social Event...
Something For Everyone

Field Day is June 23-24, 2012

Is Field Day a contest, an emergency preparedness exercise, a public relations demonstration, a great event for clubs, or just a fun way to get on the air? Field Day is ALL these things! Hams set up away from commercial power and normal installations for 24 hours during the last full weekend in June.

Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, frontline emergency services and key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For the Surrey Amateur Radio Club, Field Day is one of the highlights of our annual calendar.

The objective is to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. In addition there are many categories of bonus points that can boost the claimed score. These include satellite contacts, contacts using self-generated power, and formal messages passed. SARC will be relying on our SEPAR members for the latter as they have been practicing passing training messages all year.



As in the past few years, SARC will be teaming up with The Langley Amateur Radio Association (LARA). Though responsibility for organizing the event flips from one group to the other on successive years, a lack of available LARA members once again has SARC in the lead. We will be using the previous Field Day site in Surrey, as it was reasonably central and offered an ideal combination of shelter, parking (for RVs as well) and lots of tall trees to hang antennas from. Water is available on site and we will be bringing in porta-potties, our own power and food services. The site is located at 176th Street and 24th Avenue.

Field Day orientation will be offered at a special meeting on Thursday, June 14th at 7pm at the Central Fire Training Facility, located behind and 100m to the east of Surrey Fire Hall No. 9 at 14901 64th Avenue. We

ask everyone participating in Field Day to attend, but especially those new to the event.

We hope all SARC and SEPAR members attend Field Day, even if just to have a look at what its all about. If you want to have a look at previous Field Day photos or video, you will find them on the Internet at our [Picasa Album](#) [photos] and on [YouTube](#) [video].



Field Day: Why ICS?

ICS or the 'Incident Command System' is a management structure for planning significant events, both large and small, be they emergencies or not. It was developed in California to manage large fire situations, but was quickly adopted by other organizations as an effective method to scale up—or scale down a response to a significant event.

Amateur Radio Field Day is a significant event, requiring a multitude of people and resources to proceed efficiently. Most clubs, SARC included have a committee structure for their Field Day planning. ICS was first introduced in 2011 and helped to identify duties and responsibilities. In 2012 we hope to build on that experience and further develop our planning and execution so that the process is documented for future years.

The Surrey Emergency Program Amateur Radio Society (SEPARS) provides ICS level 100 training. While we cannot hope to cover that material in a short article, here is a brief overview of ICS positions as they relate to Field Day.

Incident Commander—The Field Day Chair

Safety Officer Has the absolute final say on safety issues in and around the site. Also ensures the site has adequate security.

Information Officer Public Relations or Public Information Officer (PIO)

- Media releases before
- Hospitality / Public relations at event
- Media releases after

Planning Section [Section Chief & Committee]

- **Situation Unit:** Ensures FD rules and class are followed in planning the event.
- **Resources Unit (recruiting):** Help other committees schedule people before FD. May utilize Talk-In (Logistics/Services/Comms) to recruit club members in real-time on Field Day.
- **Demobilization Unit (takedown planning):** Planning who/how to take it all down, and (via Logistics) get it all, and everyone, back to where they belong.
- **Documentation:** Preserve guest book, contest logs with Bonus Unit. May help plan logging process, process/submit logs afterwards?

Logistics Section

- **Service Branch**
- **Communications Unit** (this is where we, as Hams, usually fall within someone else's ICS operation). Provides talk-in and any other non-contest comms operations, whether on radio/cell/Internet, whether on ham, commercial or PS licensed, or FRS radios. Might include scoring the NTS points with/instead of Operations/Bonus Unit. Monitor the repeater, 146.52, and club simplex frequency for queries (and a couple of extra points), provide communications liaison with the Safety Officer, relay information for any supply needs. Also, set up wireless or wired internet access.

- **Food Unit** Can break down into Planning & Shopping, Drinks, Snacks, Cooking, Lunch, Breakfast, Dinner and Dessert. Can leverage the Support Branch to find & move the stuff once a list & budget are prepared.

Support Branch

- **Supply Unit** (truck-type transport; leg-work on purchasing for food and supplies; transporting borrowed equipment for other sections' unfilled requirements, e.g. antenna tuner, and return!)
- **Facilities Unit** (arrangements & interface with the City; renting outhouses and other equipment; arranging borrowing of equipment based other sections' unfilled requirements, e.g. generator.)
- **General Ground Support** General hands/labour details (in other words, everyone!) Antenna and tent raising, lugging.
- **Power Group** runs the generators, charges batteries, manages available power. Once you're operational, it's the primary component of Support.

Finance & Admin Section (Typically the SARC/LARA Treasurer)

Operations Section

- Deputy Operations Chiefs who lead while the Chief sleeps and take on the role of Station Manager. License trustee; ensures the operators are working the right band with the right equipment and antenna; ensures FD rules and class are followed. Also ensures the operator schedule is followed so everyone has an opportunity to participate.

Operations is divided into functional Branches as needed; with further geographic or functional Divisions or Groups, as needed. Most of our functional Divisions can naturally be called "Stations".

Contesting Branch: Each Station counted in our 3-Alpha Field Day class would be one "Division" or "Group" for ICS purposes, both for planning and operations.

- HF SSB Division Station (Station leader; shift operators, shift loggers)
- HF CW Division (ditto)
- VHF+ Division(s) (ditto)
- Digital Division(s) (ditto)
- Satellite Division (ditto)

Bonus Branch: The bonus points may cross into other ICS Divisions, but may be included in Bonus Branch

- Handling NTS traffic (for points)
- Any other special points available (satellite or digital)
- Making Natural Power contacts (for points)
- Demo points

It may sound like a lot of positions, but the advantage is that everyone in the structure knows who their team leader is and what their responsibilities are. Obviously there are more positions than people so, in an organization such as ours an individual may have more than one responsibility. In the end we should have a structured approach to Field Day with a written manual that others can follow.



SEPARS Report Kelvin Hall VA7KPH



SEPAR Activities

On April 28, 2012 SEPAR participated in a Emergency Social Service (ESS) Exercise with the City of Surrey ESS group.



This exercise was based upon a train derailment and no telephone lines or cell phone connections.

SEPAR became the eyes and ears for the Reception Centre (photos above—additional photos on the [SEPARS Shutterfly album](#)).



On May 5, 2012 SEPAR had another successful public presentation of Amateur Radio at the Guildford Recreation Centre.

Thanks to Marcy Lui VE7JT and Fred Orsetti VE7IO who organized the event and all of the volunteers that made it possible



We will be holding a SEPARS field training event on June 9 and 10. We will be participating in the ARRL June VHF QSO Party on 6 m and possibly 2 m. Location and exact

operating times TBD. This will be an excellent opportunity for SEPARS members to gain experience operating our SEPARS Grab and Go kits under challenging and competitive field conditions. It is great training for prospective emergency operators, and a helpful preparation for Field Day. Interested members should email Brett at VA7BWG@gmail.com with their available times.

SEPARS will be officially participating in ARRL Field Day on the weekend of June 22, 23 & 24. This will be a joint exercise with the Surrey and Langley Amateur Radio Clubs. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks, including setup of the Grab & Go kits, NTS message origination, and radio operation. Interested members should email Kelvin VA7KPH at VA7KPH@separs.net ASAP with their availability and (if known) specific areas of volunteer interests.

Volunteers are needed to help with the SEPARS check-in to PREOC on the third Wednesday of each month. We have enough people for May, but will need at least six people so that no one needs to do the check-in more than twice a year. The procedure is to go to the EOC at Firehall #1 to check in to the net at 1900 hrs. Interested members should email Fred VE7IO at VE7IO@separs.net with their preferred choice of months (if any).

On-going training in NTS Message handling, use of radios, EOC and ICS protocol and response to simulated emergency response events.

SEPAR 2012-2013 Executive

- President - Kelvin Hall VA7KPH
- Vice President - Alan Saunders VA7BIT
- Secretary - vacant
- Treasurer - Paulette Schouten VE7VPE
- Director - Ron Casey VE7VTA
- Director - Brett Garrett VE7GM
- Director - Don Hamilton VA7GL
- Director - John Schouten VE7TI
- Director - Pat Speer VA7XE

(Continued from page 6)

SEPAR Events Calendar

separ.shutterfly.com - Click on the Calendar tab

- Field Day June 22, 23 and 24, 2012
- Canada Day Celebration - Millennium Park, Cloverdale

SEPAR Meetings

Third Thursday of each month starting at 1900 hrs

Fourth Saturday of each month starting at 0900 hrs

Location and event schedule can be found at separ.shutterfly.com—click on the calendar tab

Internet sites for Emergencies

Emergency Management BC formerly Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) pep.bc.ca/index.html



AMSAT Contests and Awards

Bruce Paige, KK5DO reminds you that time of year is once again approaching - Field Day!

The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT) promotes its own version of Field Day for operation via the amateur satellites, held concurrently with the ARRL event.

With the loss of AO-51 and SO-6ay this year is going to be most challenging. If you are considering ONLY the FM voice satellites like AMRAD-OSCAR-27 or SaudiSat-Oscar-50 for your primary AMSAT Field Day focus: Don't, unless you are simply hoping to make one contact for the ARRL rules bonus points.



The congestion on FM LEO satellites was so intense in prior years that we must continue to limit their use to one-QSO-per-FM-satellite. This includes the International Space Station. You will be allowed one QSO if the ISS is operating Voice. You will also be allowed one digital QSO with the ISS or any other digital, non-store-and-forward, packet satellite (if operational).

If you have worked the satellites on Field Day in recent years, you may have noticed a lot of good contacts can be made on some of the less-populated, low-earth-orbit satellites like VUSat OSCAR-52, Fuji-OSCAR 29 (may or may not be operational), AMSAT-OSCAR 7. During Field Day the transponders come alive like 20 meters on a weekend. The good news is that the transponders on these satellites will support multiple simultaneous contacts. The bad news is that you can't use FM, just low duty cycle modes like SSB and CW.

Amateurs are to use the exchange as specified in ARRL rules for Field Day. The AMSAT competition is to encourage the use of all amateur satellites, both analog and digital.

For the complete listing of the AMSAT Field Day Rules please refer to the documents posted on-line at:

<http://www.amsatnet.com/fd2012.doc>

<http://www.amsatnet.com/fd2012.pdf>

Links are also accessible from www.amsat.org front page.

~ Bruce Paige, KK5DO
AMSAT Director Contests and Awards

Annual SARC Fox Hunt Results



The Annual SARC Fox Hunt was held on May 12th under a warm cloudless sky with 18 Hams, some friends and family, gathered at the north end of Crescent Park in South Surrey .

Under the technical guidance of Amel of BC RadioSport, groups of 'Fox Hunters', were divided into advanced and novice classes. All were given 110 minutes to find five hidden 'foxes'. Using a simple hand held 2 meter receiver and a variety of home brewed and professionally made directional antennas and attenuators, compasses and maps, coupled with one's acuity of hearing and a good pair of running shoes, they were off, surprisingly in all directions which is odd, for one would have thought the very reason for a directional antenna was to point us in the correct direction!! Anyway the purpose was to have fun and hone one's RDF skills.

Fun indeed was had by all and the results are:

In the Advanced class :

1st place : Grant Van Skiver VE7GVS, 5TXs + MicroFox, 74min 10sec

2nd John MacConnachie VE7GED, 4TXs, 61min 50sec

3rd G. D. (Joe) Young VE7BFK, 3TXs + Microfox, 62min 20s sec

Out of time:

Mike Zavarukhin VE7ACN

Lou Beaubien VE7CGE

In the Novice class:

1st Dan Grimard VE7CXG , 1TX, 88min & Donna Grimard VE7DHS

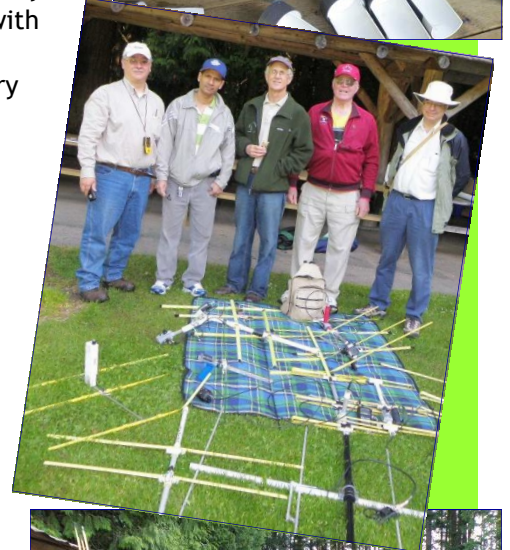
2nd John Brodie, VA7XB, 1TX, 100min 30sec

3rd Bhim Sen Nair VA7BIM, 1TX, 105min

An informal BBQ followed the event, this provided the opportunity for some fellowship, camaraderie and exchange of FoxHunt stories.

Thanks to Amel VA7KBA, Keith VE7MID, and Hiu VE7YXG for photos, Arthur VE7SIE and Nicole VE7PET, John VA7XB and Susan VE7IIE.

Mark your calendars for May 2013 for the next Annual FoxHunt.



Introduction to Amateur Radio Direction Finding

Amateur radio operators practice these skills in events called "Fox Hunts", "Bunny Hunts" or "T-Hunts". With these skills, they are better prepared to serve their communities in a variety of emergency situations.

Also known as a Radio Sport, amateur radio clubs like SARC, sponsor Fox Hunts, where individuals and teams compete to find hidden transmitters. Most hunts are open and welcome new participants. On-the-hunt training and coaching are readily available. Watch Introduction to [Amateur Radio Direction Finding](#) [video].



QRM ...from the Editor's shack

*Do you have a photo or bit of club news to share?
Something to sell or something you are looking for?
Email it to ve7ti@separs.net for inclusion in this column.*

C.W. Parker Carousel's 100th Anniversary

The Burnaby Amateur Radio Club is hosting a special event this coming June 16 - 17 weekend. We are celebrating the C.W. Parker Carousel's 100th Anniversary, at Burnaby Village Museum. We have obtained a special call sign for this event: CG7CWPC.

Lianne writes: "The station will be set up outside the Carousel pavilion on June 16th and 17th. We will be operating between 8am to 5pm, both days.

We would like to get as many amateurs to come out and volunteer an hour or two for this special event. This would be a great opportunity for new and inactive radio amateurs to work the station to obtain some experience and get back on the air. It also might be a good warm-up practice for Field Day.

We are looking for station managers, operators, loggers and amateur radio spokespersons to explain what amateur radio is and what we are doing. Two HF stations and one VHF station will be in operation.

There will be hands-on table for visitors to try their hand at CW with a key or paddles connected to a CW practice oscillator and display monitor. We will also be handing out information about local amateur radio clubs and contact points."

Assistance with set-up and tear-down is also appreciated. If interested, please contact Eric VE7EES at ve7ees@rac.ca for details.

Following is a link to help you find the CW Parker Carousel.

<http://www.burnabyvillagemuseum.ca/EN/main/visit/directions.html>

If you are interested and able to commit an hour or two to help out with this event, please see the following link to our calendar and reserve a time slot.

http://www.keepandshare.com/calendar/show_month.php?i=2108820&cat=0&fclick=y

If you are unable to access either of these links, please contact Eric VE7EES at ve7ees@rac.ca or Lianne VE7PNJ at ve7pnj@gmail.com

OZ1MAL Update

Kjeld VE7GP sent an update on Danish sailors Kim and Kirsten (Kim's call sign is OZ1MAL). "I received a letter from them a few days ago. According to the letter, they have not been able to make any radio contacts from Cordoba, Alaska where they start their journey. According to the letter they were waiting for some small parts by mail, and as soon as those arrived, they planned to leave, hopefully the week of May 20th.

They will sail from Cordoba to Kodiak, where they will pick up food supplies and diesel fuel, before heading West for the Bearing Sea. They will have to stay in Nome, to wait for the ice to break up, before resuming their journey. They have containers for extra Diesel fuel, for stretches where they cannot sail, and for heat on board the boat.

Further updates will follow when available. There may be difficulties receiving them when they get farther north, and potential problems with northern lights and sunspots.

Kim will be trying to check in to the Hawaiian Maritime Net, that runs daily at 0300Z to 0400Z on 14300 MHz.

Please let me know if you hear them on the net, or talk to them. I do have limited antenna capacity, at my QTH.

~ Kjeld VE7GP ve7gp@telus.net

Buy & Sell

For sale is an equipment rack suitable for computer, audio and/or ham gear. Standard 19" reconfigurable rack shelving front and rear. Enclosed in an attractive black metal cabinet with a smoked transparent front door and a metal rear door. Removable vented side panels. Included is a 110v power panel with circuit breakers. On heavy duty casters. Retail at \$1,100, reasonable offers considered. Contact John ve7ti@separs.net





'Net' Working Internet Resources and Tidbits for Hams

Dropbox, SkyDrive, Google Drive: Which one is right for you?

If you're a computer user looking for free online (cloud) storage, three services stand out from the rest. Although Dropbox, SkyDrive, and Google Drive are superficially similar, there are some big differences.

I personally started to use these services (all three, plus 2 photo storage sites) because I wanted to be certain I could access files that I needed to keep in sync across all of my devices. These include two desktops, a laptop, a notebook, my iPhone, and my wife's laptop, iPhone and Android tablet. These services have been a lifesaver on several occasions including one instance where I had forgotten a file while I was 1,500 miles away. I located a free wi-fi spot, located and downloaded the file and the problem was resolved.

I also keep my radio and photo gear manuals and Ham Radio logbook on the 'cloud' now and it is synchronized with my travel computer and desktop. No more guessing which was my most recent file version as it is automatically synced whenever I save it. My digital QST collection is there too.

Why do I use all three? Well... they're free for one thing. I volunteer for several groups and I keep them separated on different services. Depending on their free space, I allocate larger files to the one with the most space. In another column I'll share my photo sites but I don't use any of these for that purpose except if a presentation or file includes a photo.

My other consideration is security. I change my passwords frequently and I use strong passwords (combinations of upper and lower case letters, numbers and punctuation). I'm not aware of any security flaws or breaches of any of these services, but regular password changes are good regardless.

Finally, a reasonably fast Internet connection is a must. I wouldn't want to use any of these services on dial-up unless I was really desperate for a file. Fortunately today, any McDonald's or Starbucks offers free, fast wi-fi in a pinch.

Dropbox

Dropbox is a free service that lets you bring your photos, docs, and videos anywhere and share them easily. Dropbox was founded in 2007 by Drew Houston and Arash Ferdowsi, two MIT students tired of emailing files to themselves to work from more than one computer.

Today, more than 50 million people across every continent use Dropbox to always have their stuff at hand, share with family and friends, and work on team projects. A basic account, which is free, provides you with 2 Gb online storage, more if you sign up referrals.



SkyDrive

With Microsoft SkyDrive, you can securely store your files and get to them from any of your devices, including your PC, phone, Mac, or iPad. You never have to worry about forgetting a file at home or work, because the latest versions are always automatically there for you.

When you download SkyDrive on your PC, or Mac, your desktop SkyDrive folder is automatically created. Any file or photo you put in this folder will be automatically synced to your other devices that have SkyDrive. To do this, download SkyDrive on all your computers. Click Run to start the installation, and then click Next to advance through the setup wizard. And of course you can still get to your files anytime from any computer by signing in to SkyDrive.com. A unique SkyDrive feature allows you to remotely connect to a PC where you've installed the SkyDrive PC client and "fetch" files that aren't in the SkyDrive folder.

Files may be edited with Office Web Apps online or, of course, via your own software.

You get at least 7 Gb of free storage with SkyDrive—that's enough for over 20,000 Office documents or 7,000 photos. For most people, this is plenty of space. Previous users of earlier versions of SkyDrive receive 25 Gb. But if that isn't enough, you can add even more storage for a low yearly fee.



Google Drive

Google Drive is a cloud storage service.

Essentially, it's a beefed-up version of Google Docs. You can store your documents, photos, music, videos, etc. all in one place. It syncs with your mobile devices and your computer, so if you make a change from one gadget, it will automatically show up if you were to access it elsewhere. You can use Google Docs to edit your documents.

It tracks your changes too, so if you make an edit to the document and hit save, you can still look back at all your revisions from the past 30 days. Of course it relies heavily on Google search, with image recognition for browsing your photos and some OCR capabilities for sniffing out text in pictures.

It offers both free and premium options. You can get up to 5GB of space for free, after which you can upgrade.

All these options permit you to securely share files or folders with others either permanently or on a one-time basis.

~ John Schouten VE7TI





News You Can Lose The lighter side of our hobby

Edison vs Tesla and Topsy's Revenge

In the "War of Currents" era in the late 1880s, George Westinghouse and Thomas Edison became adversaries due to Edison's promotion of direct current (DC) for electric power distribution over alternating current (AC), advocated by several European companies and Westinghouse Electric, based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more background, listen to Paul Harvey's ['The Rest of The Story'](#) [audio].

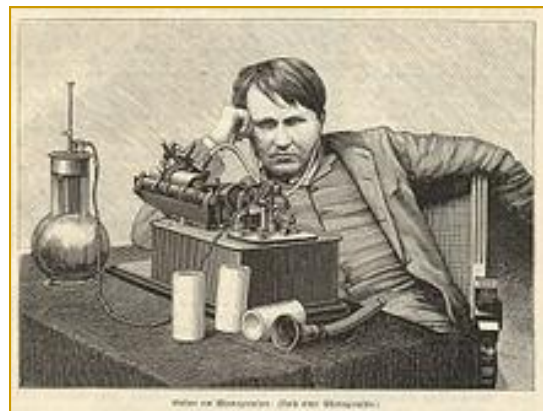
Edison tried to advocate and advance his argument (and his bank account). An elephant named 'Topsy' became an unfortunate victim, partly as a demonstration of how "unsafe" his competitor's (Nikola Tesla) alternating current design was.

Topsy belonged to the Forepaugh Circus and spent the last years of her life at Coney Island's Luna Park. Because she had killed three men in as many years (including a severely abusive trainer who attempted to feed her a lit cigarette), Topsy was deemed a threat to people by her owners and killed by electrocution on January 4, 1903, at the age of 28. Thomas Edison captured the event on film. He would release it later that year under the title [Electrocuting an Elephant](#) [video].

A means of killing initially discussed was hanging. However, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals protested and other ways were considered. Edison then suggested electrocution with alternating current, which had been used for the execution of humans since 1890.

Topsy was fed carrots laced with 460 grams of potassium cyanide before the deadly current from a 6,600-volt AC source was sent coursing through her body. She was dead within seconds. The event was witnessed by an estimated 1,500 people and Edison's film of the event was seen by audiences throughout the United States. When Luna Park burned down in 1944, the fire was referred to as "Topsy's Revenge".

On July 20, 2003, a memorial for Topsy was erected at the Coney Island Museum.



Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!

Shouted desperately in various combat action movies, but why do they say that and what does it really mean? Actually, it has nothing at all to do with the springtime celebration, but everything to do with distress and an urgent call for help. "Mayday" is an anglicized version of the French "m'aidez" (help me) or "m'aider" (render aid to me).

The word in its modified form was adopted as the official radiotelephone distress call in 1927 by the International Radiotelegraph Convention of Washington DC.

PROVEN PERFORMANCE ON 144-148 MEGACYCLES

FEDA APPROVED FOR MATCHING FUNDS

MODEL CD-2 DOUBLE CONVERSION RECEIVER

Designed for Continuous Duty.

27 watt input - 17 watt output

- 110 VAC AND 6 VDC OPERATION
- RCVR SENSITIVITY: 0.5 MICROVOLTS
- IMAGE REJECTION: 60 db
- HARMONIC SUPPRESSION: 60 db
- 8 CRYSTAL CHANNELS
- NO MULTIPLIER TUNING REQ. (FACTORY SET)
- 6252 AX9910 P.P. FINAL
- PLATE MODULATED
- ANTENNA IMPED.: 32 - 72 OHMS
- PROVISIONS FOR COMPLETE REMOTE CONTROL
- PUSH-TO-TALK OPERATION
- AVAILABLE FOR 6 METERS (CD-6)

The CD-2 is a combined 2 meter crystal controlled transmitter and double conversion super heterodyne receiver. It is designed for CD fixed and emergency operations, and is engineered to meet all the rigid specifications of the FEDA. The CD-2 is a rugged, quality constructed unit, dependable for the serious work of CD — Ideal for just pleasant QSO'ing on two. Compare these fine outstanding features . . .

A complete resume available on request to CD Division —

SONAR RADIO CORP

The forerunner of today's emergency preparedness efforts was the Civil Defense (CD) program.

Manufacturers jumped on the bandwagon and started to produce transceivers to fill the perceived need, especially in the relatively new 'higher' bands. This unit is one such model built for 2 metre operation.

Try putting a couple of these in your Grab 'n Go kit!



Tech Talk Size Does Matter

Why Wire Diameter Is Important

A metal consists of a lattice of atoms, each with a shell of electrons. The outer electrons are free to dissociate from their parent atoms and travel through the lattice, creating a 'sea' of electrons, making the metal a conductor. When an electrical potential difference (a voltage) is applied across the metal, the electrons drift from one end of the conductor to the other under the influence of the electric field.

The larger the cross-sectional area of the conductor, the more electrons are available to carry the current, so the lower the resistance. The longer the conductor, the more scattering events occur in each electron's path through the material, so the higher the resistance. Different materials also affect the resistance.

Simply stated... as electrons move across a wire, they constantly collide with atoms making up a wire. These collisions impede the flow of electrons and are what cause the wire to have resistance. Thus, if the diameter of the wire were larger, it would only make sense that the electrons don't collide as much, therefore creating less resistance due to a larger wire. This is all in accordance to Ohm's law.

The resistance is the ratio of the voltage difference across an object to the current that passes through the object due to the existence of the voltage difference (Resistance = Voltage / Current). If the object is made of a material that obeys Ohm's Law, then this ratio is constant no matter what the voltage difference is.

Consider a copper wire that passes some amount of current, say 1 Ampere (A), when a voltage difference of 1 Volt (V) is applied between the ends of the wire. Now consider an identical but separate wire connected across that same 1V source. You would expect that it would also conduct 1A ($R=V/A$ $R=1/1$ therefore $R = 1 \text{ Ohm}$).

Now think of joining those two wires together side by side into one, thicker wire. Much like using a thicker pipe to increase the supply of water, it is reasonable to expect that this wire should carry 2 A of current if the potential difference across the wires is still 1 V. Thus, the new, thicker wire will have a reduced resistance of $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Ohm}$ compared to the original wire with its resistance of 1 Ohm. ($R=V/A$ $R=1/2$ therefore $R = .5 \text{ Ohm}$).

Why? Basically, a thicker wire creates additional paths for current to flow through the wire. This reduces resistance which results in less generated heat. This is one of the reasons you should use heavy gauge wires when, for example, running a voltage supply to your 12 volt mobile radio. If you don't, you could find your expected 12-13 volts DC is actually significantly lower.

American Wire Gauge

American wire gauge (AWG), also known as the Brown & Sharpe wire gauge, is a standardized wire gauge system used since 1857 predominantly in the United States and Canada for the diameters of round, solid, nonferrous, electrically conducting wire. The cross-sectional area of each gauge is an important factor for determining its current-carrying capacity.



The steel industry does not use AWG and prefers a number of other wire gauges. These include W&M Wire Gauge, US Steel Wire Gauge, and Music Wire Gauge.

Increasing gauge numbers give decreasing wire diameters, which is similar to many other non-metric gauging systems. This gauge system originated in the number of drawing operations used to produce a given gauge of wire. Very fine wire (for example, 30 gauge) required more passes through the drawing dies than did 0 gauge wire. Manufacturers of wire formerly had proprietary wire gauge systems; the development of standardized wire gauges rationalized selection of wire for a particular purpose.

The AWG tables are for a single, solid, round conductor. The AWG of a stranded wire is determined by the total cross-sectional area of the conductor, which determines its current-carrying capacity and electrical resistance. Because there are also small gaps between the strands, a stranded wire will always have a slightly larger overall diameter than a solid wire with the same AWG.

Stranded wires are specified with three numbers, the overall AWG size, the number of strands, and the AWG size of a strand. The number of strands and the AWG of a

strand are separated by a slash. For example, a 22 AWG 7/30 stranded wire is a 22 AWG wire made from seven strands of 30 AWG wire.

- AWG 18 has a solid diameter of about 1mm
- Adding 6 halves the diameter, Subtracting 6 doubles the diameter
- Adding 20 divides the diameter by 10, and subtracting 20 multiplies the diameter by 10

The following table lists the minimum recommended wire gauge for the length of supply cable in high power radio systems.

System Amperage	0-4 ft.	4-7 ft.	7-10 ft.	10-13 ft.	13-16 ft.	16-19 ft.
0 - 20	14	12	12	10	10	8
20-35	12	10	8	8	6	6
35-50	10	8	8	6	4	4

Conductivity of Common Metals

Silver	The 15 most common metals are listed at right, in order of their conductivity. But, you may say, gold is always touted as best for contacts! It's true... while gold is not the best conductor, it does not corrode like some other metals and therefore provides more reliable contact over a longer period of time. Another surprise is that lead and tin, two of the most common elements in solder are relatively low on the conductivity list. The reason for using them is the fact that lead and tin are used for solder because not only do they have low melting points, but more importantly they form a "eutectic" alloy which has a considerably lower melting point than either one individually (many metals form eutectics), at the disadvantage of higher resistance.
Copper	
Annealed Copper	
Gold	
Aluminum	
Tungsten	
Zinc	
Nickel	
Lithium	
Iron	
Platinum	
Tin	
Carbon steel	
Lead	
Titanium	

Because its conductivity is the second highest of any metal and its cost is relatively low, copper sees use in most wire, connectors, printed circuit foils and related electrical parts. The resistance of a 24-gauge copper wire 1,000 feet long at room temperature will be about 26 ohms.

Silver's higher conductivity and cost make it a niche product. It's used as wire and solder in specialty electronics. By comparison, a silver 24-gauge, 1,000-foot-long wire would measure about 24 ohms.

Solder Smoke Update

SARC instituted a kit building incentive in December 2011. SARC members in good standing qualified to receive up to \$50 reimbursement for building a project kit themselves or at a club workshop during 2012. The kit had to be related to Amateur Radio. Receipts had to be submitted and the member willing to make a presentation at a meeting night on how the kit is used in their ham shack, home or vehicle. Two members took advantage of this incentive and presented their kits at the May meeting, Hiu Yee VE7YXG and Gary Skett VE7AS.

Hiu described the variable voltage power supply he had constructed which provides 0-30 volts at 2.5 amp. The kit (CANA-KIT CK239A) requires an external transformer and can be supplemented with a digital voltage or current display; alternatively, the user can simply connect an analog or digital VOM. Gary described the iambic keyer kit he had constructed, with audible monitor to which he had added a home-made paddle for sending CW when connected to a transceiver. Gary's kit is available from www.hamgadgets.com. He suggests getting the optional enclosure if you aren't going to install it inside a rig. It's only 48 more and comes pre-drilled.

Together, Gary and Bill then spoke about the features of software defined radio, in particular the FLEX 5000 with Panadapter. Both stressed that, as the new frontier in amateur radio, SDR is not for everyone and anyone considering purchase should be comfortable with computers.

Thanks to Hiu, Gary and Bill for stimulating talks. If others wish to construct kits, the rebate program is still open provided that pre-approval is obtained.



ARRL launch digital QST magazine

The ARRL has launched an International Membership with a digital version of QST magazine for \$39.

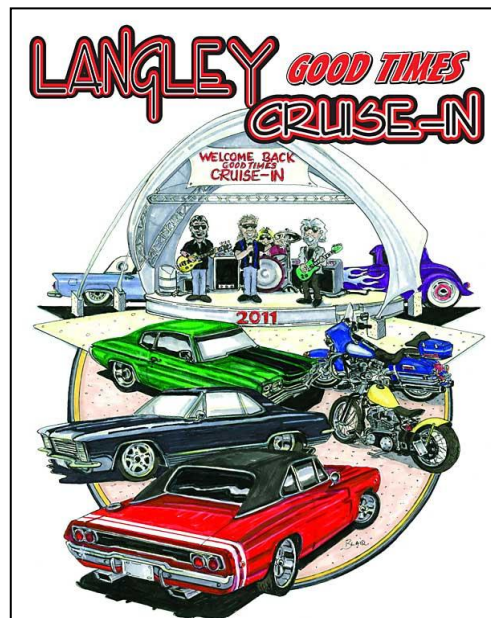
QST is one of the world's leading amateur radio magazines and the digital version should have an appeal to English speaking radio amateurs around the world. It could be that in certain countries some amateurs may prefer the digital QST to locally produced publications.

According to ARRL the new format offers several advantages including enhanced content, timely access, and a more interactive experience. The digital edition is easy to navigate; flip pages from cover-to-cover, zoom in/out, search (full text), print and share, and follow live hyperlinks. Each issue will include unique, digital-edition-only content—video, audio features and extra content.

The ability to print the magazine means you can use free utilities, such as CutePDF Writer, that appear as a printer to create PDF's, however, the quality isn't that good.

As well as the latest issue, ARRL members can access the digital QST archive which starts with the January 2012 edition.

QST Magazine www.arrl.org/qst



Remember that our partner club, LARA, has invited us to join them in selling raffle tickets at the "Cruise-in" event in Langley to be held in September. LARA has applied to have a table at the "Cruise-in" which attracts thousands of visitors, providing an ideal opportunity for fund raising.

More details to follow.

Cupran Special

My intent is not to provide free advertising here but I found a product that may be of interest to our community. I recently completed some work with epoxy and, in the process got some on my hands. As you may know, epoxy is pretty difficult to remove. My daughter-in-law manages a paint store and had brought me some hand cleaner to try. She said all the pros were using it with rave reviews, so I tried it, and I was impressed. It left my hands very clean, soft and it smells pretty good too.

The website lists it as "a specialty cleanser for removing oil-based paints, lacquers, stains, adhesives, tar and asphalt that is ideal for replacing thinners and other technical solvents. It contains all-natural walnut shell scrubbers.



Cupran has very strong cleaning power for removing some of the toughest soils. Given the type of contaminants Cupran Special is designed to remove, its skin compatibility is quite remarkable.

Cupran is ideal for use in industries such as automotive paint and body work and certain types of heavy assembly, metal working and silk screen printing. Product cleans substances including, oil-based paints, lacquers, enamels, adhesives, sealers, prime coatings, glues and resins from the skin".

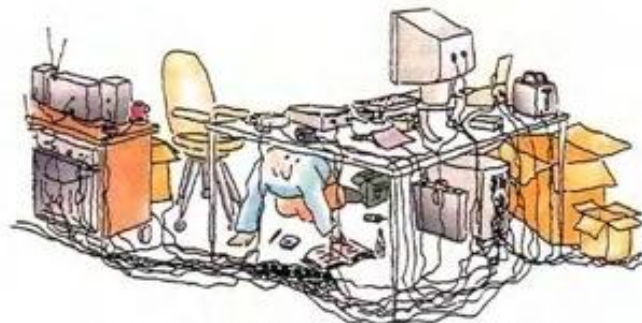
Notices

We have just been advised that the PREOC, due to activation for possible flooding, may not be available to us for our Annual General Meeting on June 13th. Therefore the AGM will be held at the following location:

Central Fire Training Facility located behind and 100m to the east of Surrey Fire Hall No. 9 at 14901-64th Ave.

We will be taking nominations from the floor for 4 Executive positions and Directors, as well as receiving the annual financial report. The meeting will conclude with sign-ups for volunteer positions at Field Day.

A Field Day Orientation meeting is planned for Thursday June 14th at 7pm at this same location. This session is especially important for those new to Field Day.



"Now, if you can find the power switch, flip it on."



Radio-Active Susan Eshelman VE7IIE

Kapila Jayaweera VE7KGK

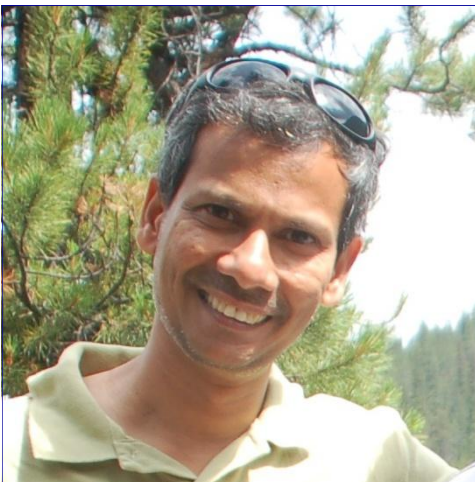
Today we're pleased to introduce one of SARC's newest members -- Kapila Jayaweera VE7KGK. Originally from the island nation of Sri Lanka, Kapila has lived in Canada for nearly 20 years. He got his Basic with Honours in November, and quickly became an active SARC member.

Kapila's interest in radio electronics began at a young age. As a ten-year old, he loved experimenting with electronics and electricity. In those days, island homes didn't have 110 volt power, but ran on 220. And given that batteries were expensive and in short supply, Kapila learned to 'plug and play' directly.

Occasionally his experiments resulted in blown fuses, which required waiting for his older brother to get home, and re-set the home system. He once managed to achieve a 'blackened finger', but continued to experiment, undeterred. In high school he got into radio electronics, and in Grade 10, enjoyed taking a correspondence course in electronics that taught him how to build circuits, etc.

Kapila also got interested in the field of computing back in high school, and enjoyed working with what was one of the first gen computers at the time -- an old Sinclair Spectrum keyboard -- basically a keypad connected to a television. Figuring out how the apparatus worked, he taught his teacher. Not surprisingly, Kapila went on to be employed in the computer field, joining an IT firm in Sri Lanka.

Over the years, Kapila has continued to develop his knowledge as an IT professional, and for the last 12 years has worked in the field of emergency communications,



building networks that are used by local first responders.

Not surprisingly, the field of Amateur Radio was a natural crossover interest for Kapila. He'd been interested for some time in pursuing a ham license, but as a

father of two, life was always busy. Trying to fit his schedule to the classes being run by VECTOR in Vancouver hadn't worked, so Kapila was happy to see the flier at Guildford Library, promoting the SARC class being taught at the time by Gary Skett VE7AS.

Kapila found the Basic Ham class to be thoroughly interesting and enjoyable. His interest in the physics as well as the electronics side carried him through the tough test questions, and he filled-in knowledge gaps he'd long been interested in on the RF side of things.

Today, VE7KGK enjoys developing his Amateur Radio interest while applying the experience in professional life. He appreciates not only the hobby side, but also the importance of ham for emergency communications, both at the family and community levels. He currently tunes into the SEPAR Net, and if time permits, may one day get involved on the SEPAR side, as well.

Now operating on VHF with a J-pole antenna and good quality cable, Kapila enjoys talking with hams in Chilliwack, Ferndale, Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands on a 5-watt handheld. He's now looking at HF radios, and may one day tinker with Software Defined Radio, as well.

Meanwhile, Kapila is exploring the many aspects of ham radio, mentored along by Rob Gilchrist VE7CZV, John Schouten VE7TI and other SARC members. He found the recent Foxhunt very interesting, and was surprised to realize just how much effort the serious Foxhunters put into that sport! He continues to appreciate the broad range of knowledge and expertise found in the Amateur Radio community, which members so willingly share with new hams.

Remember!

On Wednesday June 13th the SARC AGM will be held at the following location:

**Central Fire Training Facility
located behind and 100m to the east of
Surrey Fire Hall No. 9 at 14901 64th Avenue**



RAC News Radio Amateurs of Canada

60 Metre Consultation

As of May 12th, Industry Canada has begun the consultation process to see final approval for the use of six channels on the 60 metre band.

As part of the consultation, Industry Canada is seeking input on five items. RAC feels it is important for amateur radio operators to comment on this proposal and indicate their preference for the rules governing the frequencies going forward. The five items are explained below.

Item One: Should Industry Canada allow amateur radio operators the use of five frequencies that are harmonized with the US on a no-protection, no-interference basis? These channels are 5332kHz, 5348kHz, 5358.5kHz, 5373kHz, 5405kHz. Transmissions would be limited to a 2.8Khz bandwidth centered on these frequencies.

- The obvious answer to Item One is that as amateur radio operators, these additional frequencies are needed for additional emergency communication capacity and having harmonization on frequency with the US will allow for cross border operation.

Item Two: Should Industry Canada harmonize the emission modes and designators on these five channels? In the US they are limited to telephony, data, RTTY and CW.

- In Item Two, IC asks if the operating modes should be the same as the US on the five harmonized channels. It was assumed prior to consultation that this was not optional but in the consultation, it appears that input will be taken on this item. However in the proposed revisions to RBR-4, these designators are in place. Unless reason is shown to not harmonize this item, it will likely be implemented.

Item Three: Should Industry Canada specify a maximum radiated power of

100 watts peak envelope power?

-Again, in Item Three, IC asks if there should be harmonization on the output power on the five channels. In the US, the FCC has limited transmit power to 100 watts. In the proposed revisions to RBR-4, these designators are in place. Unless reason is shown to not harmonize this item, it will likely be implemented.

Item Four: Should Industry Canada allow Canadian amateurs access to the 5329kHz channel? Transmissions would be restricted to 2.8 kHz centered on this frequency.

In Item Four, IC asks if they should allow a sixth, Canadian only channel. Originally, RAC had requested two Canadian

only channels but one was found to be un-useable. RAC recommends Canadian Amateurs support the allotment of a sixth channel.

Item Five: Should Industry Canada specify emission designators and peak power for this sixth channel? If so, what would those be?

-Given that the channel referred to in Item Five is domestic only there is little need to harmonize emission types with the US. RAC recommends that as few limits as possible be placed upon the sixth channel to encourage development of domestic communications on this channel.

Those wishing to provide their comments to Industry Canada are asked to do so in the following ways:

In electronic format (WordPerfect, MS Word or PDF) sent to spectrum.engineering@ic.gc.ca . RAC requests a copy of your comments also be sent to regulatory@rac.ca so that we may track response from amateur radio operators.

In written format by mail to Manager, Mobile Systems, Industry Canada,

300 Slater Street, 19th Floor, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0C8. RAC requests that if possible, a copy of written comments be faxed to RAC at 866-660-1187 so that we may track response from amateur radio operators. Please note that Industry Canada will not accept comments by fax.

The Radio Amateurs of Canada has been working to obtain permanent authorization for Canadian Amateurs on the 60 metre band since 2010.

This consultation process represents one of the last steps in that work. Development Licenses continue to be available for those operators who wish to have temporary use of the five frequencies identified in Item One. There is a small cost for the development license. If you wish to obtain a temporary development license, please contact your local District Office of Industry Canada.

To ensure consideration, parties should submit their comments no later than June 12, 2012.

For your reference, here is the consultation paper on our website.

This would have the most accurate information.

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10381.html>

The SARC Calendar ...all about the Amateur Radio month ahead in Surrey

June 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 	27	28	29	30	1  SARC Friday Breakfast 8:30	2 Sea-Pac Hamfest Seaside, OR
3 Sea-Pac Hamfest Seaside, OR	4	5 SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00	6	7	8 Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:30 ABC Restaurant 74th & King George Blvd.	9 Contest ARRL June VHF QSO Party
10 Contest ARRL June VHF QSO Party	11	12 SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00	13 SARC Annual General Meeting at 7pm Surrey Firehall #9, 14901 64th Avenue	14 Field Day Training 7pm Surrey Firehall #9, 14901 64th Avenue	15 Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:30	16 Contest All-Asian DX Contest CW
17 Contest All-Asian DX Contest CW	18	19 SEPAR NET 7:30 SARC NET 8:00	20 SARC Exec Mtg. 7:00	21	22 Weekly SARC Breakfast 8:30 Field Day Setup Noon	23 Field Day
24 Field Day	25	26	27	28	29	30
For details on all SARC events, go to ve7sar.net For details on all SEPARS events, go to separs.net						

 Contest Details: <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>



QRT John Brodie VA7XB

SARC 2012 Field Day

Field Day is the most important event of the year for SARC and other amateur radio clubs throughout North America. As usual we will join forces with SEPARS and Langley ARA on the last full weekend of June, bringing a year of activities to a climax before we break for summer holidays.



meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of amateur radio". The benefits of participation can be taken at many different levels. Most importantly, Field Day is an emergency response exercise that will test our ability to assemble radio equipment and make it functional using portable power, and to send and receive information quickly and accurately.

Secondly, it is a contest that challenges participants' ability to make more radio contacts than competing stations and thus earn bragging rights, much like the other contests that take place during the year.

Thirdly, it is an opportunity to educate the public about amateur radio and its role in communications, and to raise the profile with local and regional governments.

Fourthly it can be considered as a social event that gives us a weekend to work with club members and enjoy the camaraderie while achieving a common goal.

This year SARC will be striving to improve its score not only by increasing the number of contacts it makes, but also by taking advantage of the many opportunities to earn bonus points with 100% portable power, a solar powered station, satellite station, a GOTA ("get on the air") station, media publicity, public location, public information table, attendance of public officials, receipt of W1AW bulletin, educational activity, formal NTS message to the Section Manager, etc. The callsign VE7LSY will be used for all but the GOTA station, which will use VE7SAR.

ARRL says that the objective of Field Day is "to work as many stations as possible... and in doing so to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimum conditions... [with] a premium... on developing skills to

We will have 3 HF stations, nominally designated for CW, SSB and digital (RTTY and PSK-31) using beam and wire antennas. In addition a VHF station will seek contacts on 2m and 440 Mhz. Since CW and digital earn the most points, they will be given priority over SSB if a choice must be made.



A station manager, present on all shifts, will oversee operations, trouble-shoot, and designate operating bands, modes, antennas and beam directions. As you may imagine, all these activities require considerable planning. While the FD leaders have been assigned their duties, there will be a big demand for volunteers to carry them out. We are relying on the membership of all three

groups to step up and assist the effort. In particular, we do not have a volunteer to coordinate organization of meals and cooking...are you someone who could take on this important task? If so, please let us know.

